

## General

### Title

Oncology: percentage of patients, regardless of age, with a diagnosis of cancer who have undergone brachytherapy or external beam radiation therapy who have a treatment summary report in the chart that was communicated to physician(s) providing continuing care and to the patient within one month completing treatment.

### Source(s)

American Society for Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology, American Society of Clinical Oncology, Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement®. Oncology physician performance measurement set. Chicago (IL): American Medical Association (AMA); 2009 Jan. 46 p.

## Measure Domain

### Primary Measure Domain

#### Process

The validity of measures depends on how they are built. By examining the key building blocks of a measure, you can assess its validity for your purpose. For more information, visit the [Measure Validity](#) page.

### Secondary Measure Domain

Does not apply to this measure

## Brief Abstract

### Description

This measure is used to assess the percentage of patients, regardless of age, with a diagnosis of cancer who have undergone brachytherapy or external beam radiation therapy who have a treatment summary report in the chart that was communicated to physician(s) providing continuing care and to the patient within one month completing treatment.

### Rationale

Timely, accurate, and effective communications are critical to quality and value in contemporary medical practices. As both a consultant oncologist and the provider of radiation oncology services, the radiation oncologist has a dual role. Radiation therapy incorporates the science of complex, integrated treatment delivery and the art of individual cancer management. Through written focused reports and direct communications, the contribution of radiation oncologists concerning patient care, responsible utilization, and quality are provided, especially to primary care physicians, other oncologists and specialists, and allied healthcare providers (nurses, tumor registrars, quality assurance personnel, third-party reviewers, etc).\* (American College of Radiology [ACR])

\*The following clinical recommendation statements are quoted verbatim from the referenced clinical guidelines and represent the evidence base for the measure:

A summary should be generated that accurately describes the treatment process, the doses delivered to the target/tumor volume and other key organs, relevant assessment of tolerance to and progress towards the treatment goals, and subsequent care plans. The style will reflect the radiation oncologist's individual practice convention and the referral provider's needs. The style, content, and detail of this summary must be tailored to the clinical setting and prevailing practice norms. It should contain elements that accurately and succinctly reflect the program of care administered in a language understandable to the nonradiation oncologist. It is suggested that, the report to the referring physician include a request for periodic updates on the patient's progress. These updates will facilitate continuity of care should the patient require further radiation therapy. (ACR)

## Primary Clinical Component

Cancer; brachytherapy; external beam radiation therapy; treatment summary

## Denominator Description

All patients, regardless of age, with a diagnosis of cancer who have undergone brachytherapy or external beam radiation therapy (see the related "Denominator Inclusions/Exclusions" field)

## Numerator Description

Patients who have a treatment summary report in the chart that was communicated to the physician(s) providing continuing care and to the patient within one month of completing treatment (see the related "Numerator Inclusions/Exclusions" field)

## Evidence Supporting the Measure

### Evidence Supporting the Criterion of Quality

A clinical practice guideline or other peer-reviewed synthesis of the clinical evidence

## Evidence Supporting Need for the Measure

### Need for the Measure

Unspecified

## State of Use of the Measure

### State of Use

Current routine use

## Current Use

Internal quality improvement

## Application of Measure in its Current Use

### Care Setting

Ambulatory Care

### Professionals Responsible for Health Care

Physicians

### Lowest Level of Health Care Delivery Addressed

Individual Clinicians

### Target Population Age

All patients, regardless of age

### Target Population Gender

Either male or female

### Stratification by Vulnerable Populations

Unspecified

## Characteristics of the Primary Clinical Component

### Incidence/Prevalence

Unspecified

### Association with Vulnerable Populations

Unspecified

### Burden of Illness

Unspecified

## Utilization

Unspecified

## Costs

Unspecified

# Institute of Medicine (IOM) Healthcare Quality Report Categories

## IOM Care Need

Getting Better

Living with Illness

## IOM Domain

Effectiveness

Patient-centeredness

## Data Collection for the Measure

## Case Finding

Users of care only

## Description of Case Finding

All patients, regardless of age, with a diagnosis of cancer who have undergone brachytherapy or external beam radiation therapy

## Denominator Sampling Frame

Patients associated with provider

## Denominator Inclusions/Exclusions

### Inclusions

All patients, regardless of age, with a diagnosis of cancer who have undergone brachytherapy or external beam radiation therapy

### Exclusions

Documentation of a patient reason(s) for not communicating the treatment summary report to the physician(s) providing continuing care (e.g., patient requests that report not be sent) and to the patient within one month of completing treatment

Documentation of a system reason(s) for not communicating the treatment summary report to the physician(s) providing continuing care (e.g., patient does not have any physician responsible for providing continuing care) and to the patient within one month of completing treatment

## Relationship of Denominator to Numerator

All cases in the denominator are equally eligible to appear in the numerator

## Denominator (Index) Event

Clinical Condition

Therapeutic Intervention

## Denominator Time Window

Time window brackets index event

## Numerator Inclusions/Exclusions

Inclusions

Patients who have a treatment summary\* report in the chart that was communicated to the physician(s) providing continuing care and to the patient within one month of completing treatment

*\*Treatment Summary definition* - a report that includes mention of all of the following components: 1) dose delivered; 2) relevant assessment of tolerance to and progress towards the treatment goals; and 3) subsequent care plans.

Exclusions

None

## Measure Results Under Control of Health Care Professionals, Organizations and/or Policymakers

The measure results are somewhat or substantially under the control of the health care professionals, organizations and/or policymakers to whom the measure applies.

## Numerator Time Window

Fixed time period

## Data Source

Administrative data

Medical record

## Level of Determination of Quality

Individual Case

## Pre-existing Instrument Used

Unspecified

## Computation of the Measure

### Scoring

Rate

### Interpretation of Score

Better quality is associated with a higher score

### Allowance for Patient Factors

Unspecified

### Standard of Comparison

Internal time comparison

## Evaluation of Measure Properties

### Extent of Measure Testing

Unspecified

## Identifying Information

### Original Title

Measure #6: treatment summary communication - radiation oncology.

### Measure Collection Name

The Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement® Measurement Sets

### Measure Set Name

Oncology Physician Performance Measurement Set

### Submitter

American Medical Association on behalf of the American Society for Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology, American Society of Clinical Oncology, and Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement® -

Medical Specialty Society

## Developer

American Society for Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology - Medical Specialty Society

American Society of Clinical Oncology - Medical Specialty Society

Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement® - Clinical Specialty Collaboration

## Funding Source(s)

Unspecified

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## Financial Disclosures/Other Potential Conflicts of Interest

Conflicts, if any, are disclosed in accordance with the Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement® conflict of interest policy.

## Endorser

## Included in

Ambulatory Care Quality Alliance

## Adaptation

Measure was not adapted from another source.

## Release Date

2007 Oct

## Revision Date

2009 Jan

## Measure Status

This is the current release of the measure.

The Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement reaffirmed the currency of this measure in November 2010.

## Source(s)

American Society for Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology, American Society of Clinical Oncology, Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement®. Oncology physician performance measurement set. Chicago (IL): American Medical Association (AMA); 2009 Jan. 46 p.

## Measure Availability

The individual measure, "Measure #6: Treatment Summary Communication - Radiation Oncology," is published in the "Oncology Physician Performance Measurement Set." This document and technical specifications are available in Portable Document Format (PDF) from the American Medical Association (AMA)-convened Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement® Web site:

[www.physicianconsortium.org](http://www.physicianconsortium.org) .

For further information, please contact AMA staff by e-mail at [cqi@ama-assn.org](mailto:cqi@ama-assn.org).

## NQMC Status

This NQMC summary was completed by ECRI Institute on September 8, 2008. The information was verified by the measure developer on October 16, 2008. This NQMC summary was edited by ECRI Institute on September 28, 2009. The information was reaffirmed by the measure developer on November 17, 2010.

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